

# Texas Baptists to celebrate service at annual meeting in Waco

October 14, 2016

“Celebrating Service” is the theme of the Baptist General Convention of Texas [annual meeting](#) in Waco, Nov. 13-15, as Texas Baptists recognize the work of affiliated institutions.

Messengers to the BGCT annual meeting also will adopt a budget, elect officers and consider recommended changes to bylaws. Click [here](#) to for proposed bylaws revisions.

Click [here](#) to register church messengers online.

Keynote speakers are Cleophus LaRue, professor of homiletics at Princeton Theological Seminary, and Lee Strobel, best-selling author and professor of Christian thought at Houston Baptist University.

The annual meeting also will feature addresses by President René Maciel and Executive Director David Hardage.

Worship leaders include Maria Monteiro, assistant professor and chair of the Music Department at Baptist University of the Américas; We Are The Monks, a husband-and-wife Christian duo from Nashville; Stephen Carrell, associate pastor of worship and music at Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas; and the Baylor University Men’s Choir.

[Workshops](#) will address crucial topics for ministers and churches, such as Calvinism, radical Islam, apologetics, ministry to emerging generations, community ministry, evangelistic outreach, and same-sex marriage and the

future of the family.

Fernando Brandaو, executive director for national missions in Brazil, will lead a workshop on how churches can be involved in a missionary adoption program.

A panel discussion on the future of faith-based education features the presidents of Dallas Baptist University, East Texas Baptist University, Hardin-Simmons University and Wayland Baptist University.

A panel on “No Stranger Among Us,” focused on helping churches cross cultural and ethnic boundaries, includes Bryan Carter, pastor of Concord Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas; Jeff Warren, pastor of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas; and Jesse Rincones, executive director of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas.

Other workshop leaders include LaRue, Strobel, Jim Denison from the Denison Forum on Truth and Culture and Todd Still, dean of Baylor University’s Truett Theological Seminary.

Sunday evening, Nov. 13, kicks off with several rallies, including Hispanic ministries, African-American ministries, cowboy churches and Baptist Student Ministry leaders.

Concluding the gathering on Tuesday afternoon, several bonus workshops will be offered, including Ministry Safe Training, for sexual abuse awareness in the church; Church Revitalization, led by Phil Miller, BGCT discipleship leader, and Delvin Atchison, director of the BGCT Great Commission Team; and information on an emerging ministry to Native Americans.